

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 7, with the following amended paragraph:

FIGURE 1C shows partial nucleotide and amino acid sequences for Belgian Blue (SEQ ID NOS: 13 and 15, respectively) and Piedmontese (SEQ ID NOS: 16 and 18, respectively). The sequences are numbered relative to wild-type (SEQ ID NOS: 14 and 17, respectively). The Belgian Blue 11 nucleotide deletion (D937-947) is boxed and the Piedmontese G1056A transition is marked. Bold letters indicate nucleotide and amino acid changes. Arrows identify the locations of the mutations in the myostatin coding sequence. Shading indicates the signal sequence (gray), pro- region (white) and mature C-terminal region (black).